

September 23, 2011

Dear Parents:

As part of our mission at Willard, we are working hard to promote kindness and good decision making for all students at Willard School. We would appreciate your assistance in this endeavor. Some children find it challenging to manage their behavior when riding the school bus. In order to promote safe bus behavior, we are sending home a Bus Agreement for all students to review with their parents. We are asking all students and parents to sign this agreement and return it to the classroom teacher. In addition, staff members will be discussing the Bus Agreement at school with all students. We believe that the Bus Agreement is a proactive strategy to communicate positive expectations for bus behavior.

As you know, Open Circle is a very important part of the school experience at Willard. The Open Circle curriculum promotes the importance of respect, responsibility, problem-solving strategies, and the importance of making good choices. We want to extend these values and expectations to school bus behavior. We plan to do this in a concrete way with the Bus Agreement. The Bus Agreement communicates the type of positive behavior that is expected of all students on the school bus. As you know, the 2011-2012 Parent and Student Elementary School Handbook (yellow book) discusses bus expectations and consequences for misconduct in great detail.

The Bus Agreement is attached. I am asking all students and all parents to read and discuss the Bus Agreement and to sign and return it by September 30th. Many children ride the bus to and from school and all students ride the school bus when they travel to a special destination for a school field trip. I am sure that you agree that positive student behavior on the bus promotes safe travel for all.

Please keep the Bus Agreement on the back of this letter. Kindly sign and return the separate Bus Agreement to your child's teacher.

Thank you for taking the time to discuss the Bus Agreement with your child.

Sincerely,

Pat Fernandes
Principal